

## ■ EDITORIAL

It is my great pleasure to announce that from this issue onward, the Hong Kong Dermatology & Venereology Bulletin in its complete new format will be circulated to all the members of the Hong Kong Society of Dermatology & Venereology. It is also my great honour and privilege to take over the chief editorship at this challenging moment.

This bulletin was first published in 1993 by the Social Hygiene Service of the Department of Health and was the only local periodical in dermatology and venereology. With the great effort of Dr. K.K. Lo and all the involved staff in the Social Hygiene Service, this bulletin has evolved from its original primitive style to the present well-organized format. In order to make this publication more representative in the local field of our specialty, it is decided that from this year onward, the bulletin will become the official publication of the Hong Kong Society of Dermatology & Venereology, which has recruited the majority of the local dermatologists and those interested in this field as her members.

In the recent few years, much changes have occurred in the local medical field, such as the establishment of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, the establishment of the Specialist Registry in the Medical Council and the implementation of Continuing Medical Education for the specialists. New knowledge and technology in medicine have appeared at an explosive and incredible speed. It is therefore important for our specialty to keep in pace with the developments in the local medical system and the modern medicine. Without that, our specialty can hardly maintain our standard and status. Hopefully this bulletin can serve the purposes of local training, continuing medical education and enhancement of research in this field. In addition, it does symbolize the autonomy in the publication in our specialty. Besides serving these purposes, this bulletin can also provide the template of our own journal in the future, which is the final goal of this editorial office.

The success of this bulletin, nevertheless, cannot be achieved without the support of the members of our Society from both the public and private sectors. Although at the present moment, most of the papers come from the institution, it is hoped that more private dermatologists can actively participate in this bulletin. I sincerely invite the authors from both public and private sectors to submit their papers to this bulletin. Without your continuous support, this bulletin can hardly survive; without the unity of both sectors, our specialty cannot bloom brightly in the competitive world of medicine.

It is said that Rome could not be built within one day. Undoubtedly there is still a long and difficult way for the local dermatologists to go. With the continuing effort of our predecessors and successors, I hope that some day in the near future, we can have our own journal and our own college in the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.

**Dr. L.Y. Chong**  
**Chief Editor**